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Letter dated 9 January 2014 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution 2100 (2013), I have the honour to transmit a note verbale dated 20 December 2013 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations, forwarding the second report on the actions taken by the French forces in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) since 1 October 2013 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

[Original: French]

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General and has the honour to provide the following information.

Pursuant to paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution 2100 (2013), please find attached the report of France on actions taken since 1 October 2013 by French forces in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).

Enclosure

Second report on operational support provided by Operation Serval for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA)

Under paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution 2100 (2013), France is requested to report to the Security Council on the implementation of its mandate in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). The first report was submitted after the first three months of the Operation (S/2013/621). It did not report any combat actions "under imminent and serious threat", although it described some 15 joint operations carried out by Operation Serval with MINUSMA and the daily work of the French Liaison and Support Detachments deployed among the MINUSMA battalions.

Since 1 October 2013, five combat actions have been carried out "under imminent and serious threat", pursuant to paragraph 18. These combat actions are evidence that armed bands aim to regroup and take action against MINUSMA. This fully justifies the provisions of paragraph 16 of resolution 2100 (2013), concerning the MINUSMA mandate, and of paragraph 18, concerning the support to be provided to MINUSMA by Operation Serval.

- On 23 October 2013, in response to an attack on a Chadian post in Tessalit by a commando made up of three armed terrorist groups using a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, the Operation Serval Liaison and Support Detachment assigned to the Chadian battalion assisted MINUSMA by conducting a patrol with a Mirage 2000D jet and sending a CASA "Nurse" medical evacuation aircraft. The end result was that six wounded Chadians were evacuated and the remaining explosives were neutralized.
- On 5 November 2013, the French Liaison and Support Detachment supporting the Niger battalion helped defend a site in the vicinity of Ménaka after armed terrorist groups attempted to infiltrate it.
- On 7 and 8 November 2013, the French Liaison and Support Detachment helped protect the Niger battalion in the region between Ménaka and Anzarargane following an attack by members of the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO).
- On 30 November 2013, the French Liaison and Support Detachment assigned to the Niger battalion thwarted an attempted intrusion into the site in Ménaka occupied jointly by the Malian Armed Forces, MINUSMA and the Detachment. An individual who was attempting to enter the site died after setting off explosives strapped to his body; there were no other casualties.
- On 14 December 2013, following a suicide attack with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device against a bank (the Banque Malienne de Solidarité) in Kidal, which was guarded by a detachment of the Senegalese battalion, the French Liaison and Support Detachment assigned to the Senegalese battalion evacuated six MINUSMA personnel with minor injuries to camp No. 2 for examination by the French level I medical unit. At the request of MINUSMA, the CASA "Nurse" aircraft was deployed to evacuate to Gao three individuals with serious injuries, including one MINUSMA soldier from the Senegalese battalion.